

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINGST 03883 021806Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 GSA-01 /075 W

----- 097511

R 021200Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9024

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3883

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, JM

SUBJECT: BAUXITE INDUSTRY LABOR PROBLEMS

REF: KINGSTON 3857, 3813

1.GOJ MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND FOREIGN TRADE
PATTERSON TOLD AMBASSADOR ON OCTOBER 1 THAT GOJ "ACUTELY
AWARE" STRIKE AND GO-SLOW SITUATION REPORTED REFTELS.
CABINET DURING A "RETREAT MEETING" THIS PAST WEEKEND HAD
SUBJECT AT TOP OF ITS AGENDA. PATTERSON CLAIMED THERE
IS UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN UNION LEADERS AND GOJ OF WHAT
IS ACHIEVABLE BUT THIS "UNDERSTANDING" NOT SHARED BY WORKERS
WHO NEED BE EDUCATED. HE ALSO COMMENTED A MAJOR PROBLEM
FROM GOJ'S POINT OF VIEW IS ORIGINAL COMPANY OFFERS TO
UNIONS WERE HIGHER THAN NATION-WIDE WAGE GUIDELINES NOW
BEING CONSIDERED BY GOJ. (HE ADDED GOJ INTENDS ANNOUNCE

NEW NATION-WIDE WAGE PLAN GUIDELINES ON OCTOBER 8.

2. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT PRESENT WAGES ALREADY APPROACH
U.S. STANDARDS WHILE PRODUCTIVITY OF JAMAICAN BAUXITE
LABOR FORCE ESTIMATED TO BE ONLY ABOUT HALF OF AMERICAN.
WAGE DEMANDS OF UNIONS, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD TAKE JAMAICAN
BAUXITE LABORERS WELL BEYOND AMERICAN STANDARDS. PATTERSON
ACKNOWLEDGED FOREGOING BUT POINTED OUT PRESENT CONTRACTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINGST 03883 021806Z

ABOUT TWO YEARS OLD. WHILE WAGES ESTABLISHED WERE INI-

TIALLY VERY HIGH BY JAMAICAN STANDARDS, INFLATION HAS TAKEN

ITS TOLL. OTHER EMPLOYMENT SECTORS ARE CATCHING
UP, E.G. PORT AUTHORITY WORKERS' WAGES NOW APPROACH THOSE
OF BAUXITE INDUSTRY.

GERARD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BAUXITE, LABOR STRIKES, MINING INDUSTRY, LABOR OBJECTIVES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINGST03883
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750342-1100
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751089/aaaadb1.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KINGSTON 3857
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 SEP 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BAUXITE INDUSTRY LABOR PROBLEMS
TAGS: EMIN, JM, (PATTERSON, PERCIVAL N J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006